LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims, including the amendments indicated below, replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

1. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake comprising

a stator comprising an annular stator shell with a multiplicity of stator blades in and arrayed around the stator shell;

a rotor a corresponding comprising an annular rotor shell with a multiplicity of rotor blades in and arrayed around the rotor shell; the annular stator and rotor shells [[are]] being so shaped and arranged that they form a toroidal space with the stator and the rotor blades in the space, whereby a medium supplied to the toroidal space effects a braking action on the rotor; the space having a first and a second inlet and having an outlet;

a storage space for a medium which is intended to be supplied to the toroidal space;

a first pipe circuit for transferring the medium from coupled between the outlet from the toroidal space to the first inlet to the toroidal space; and

a second pipe circuit for transferring the medium from coupled between the storage space [[via]] and the second inlet which is arranged separately relative to the first inlet in the first pipe circuit.

2. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 1, wherein the second inlet includes at least one an input hole situated in a low pressure region of the toroidal space where the pressure during a braking process of the brake is always substantially lower than the pressure of the medium in the first pipe circuit.

3. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 2, wherein the pressure in the low pressure region corresponds substantially to atmospheric pressure.

4. (Previously Presented) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 2, wherein the input hole of the second inlet is situated substantially centrally in the toroidal space.

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5. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 4, wherein ~~at least one of the blades includes a free end portion, and~~ the input hole of the second inlet is situated adjacent to [[the]] a free end portion of ~~the at least~~ one of the blades.

6. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 5, wherein the input hole of the second inlet is situated in ~~at least~~ one of the stator blades.

7. (Previously Presented) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 1, further comprising a pump in the second pipe circuit for transferring the medium to the toroidal space.

8. (Previously Presented) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 7, wherein the pump is a gear pump.

9. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 1, wherein the first inlet to the toroidal space includes ~~at least one~~ an input hole situated in a radially outer region of the stator.

10. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 9, wherein the outlet from the toroidal space includes ~~at least one~~ an output hole situated in a radially outer region of the stator.

11. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 10, wherein the second inlet includes ~~at least one~~ an input hole situated in a region of the toroidal space where the pressure during a braking process of the brake is always substantially lower than the pressure of the medium in the first pipe circuit.

12. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 1, wherein the outlet from the toroidal space includes ~~at least one~~ an output hole situated in a radially outer region of the stator.

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13. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 2, wherein:

the outlet from the toroidal space includes ~~at least one~~ an output hole situated in a radially outer region of the stator; and

the input hole of the second inlet is situated substantially centrally in the toroidal space.

14. (New) A hydrodynamic brake according to claim 7, wherein the pump operates continuously, and further including a valve operable to direct fluid through the second pipe circuit to the second inlet when a braking operation is required.

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